

What is claimed is:

1. A method of operating a speech recognition system, comprising:  
augmenting the speech recognition system with an augmenting grammar set supplied by a portal; and  
notifying the portal in response to an input which corresponds to the augmenting grammar set.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the speech recognition system resides at an application server remote from the portal.
3. The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising transferring control of a call back to the portal after notifying the portal that the input corresponds to the augmenting grammar set.
4. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising transferring a call to another application server which corresponds to the input.
5. The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising directing the remote application server to perform one of a fixed set of pre-determined actions on behalf of the portal in response to a predetermined input.
6. The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising directing the remote application server to perform an arbitrary routine on behalf of the portal in response to a predetermined input.
7. The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising directing the portal to perform an action in response to a predetermined input.
8. A system comprising:  
a portal; and  
an application server having a speech recognizer to receive an augmenting grammar set transmitted from the portal, wherein the application server notifies the portal in response to an input which corresponds to the augmenting grammar set.

9. The system as claimed in claim 8, further comprising a voice gateway to connect a call to the portal.

10. The system as claimed in claim 9, wherein when a caller requests access to the application server, the voice gateway connects the call to the application server and breaks the connection between the call and the portal.

11. The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the portal includes a speech recognizer.

12. The system as claimed in claim 11, wherein in response to an input being recognized as corresponding to the augmenting grammar set, control of the call is transferred from the application server to the portal.

13. The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the call is transferred to another application server in response to recognizing a predetermined input as corresponding to the augmenting grammar set.

14. The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the application server performs one of a fixed set of pre-determined actions on behalf of the portal in response to a predetermined input which is recognized as corresponding to the augmenting grammar set.

15. The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the application server performs an arbitrary routine on behalf of the portal in response to a predetermined input which is recognized as corresponding to the augmenting grammar set.

16. The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the portal performs a predetermined action corresponding to an input which is recognized as corresponding to the augmenting grammar set.

17. A method comprising:  
connecting a call to a portal;  
requesting services of a remote application server via the call;

transmitting an augmenting grammar set from the portal to the remote application server;  
connecting the call to the remote application server;  
breaking the connection between the call and the portal; and  
notifying the portal when an input during the call corresponds to the augmenting grammar set.

18. The method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising reconnecting the call to the portal in response to recognizing a predetermined input as corresponding to the augmenting grammar set.

19. The method as claimed in claim 17, further comprising performing a predetermined action in response to an input which is recognized as belonging to the augmenting grammar set.

20. A system for operating a speech recognition system, comprising:  
means for augmenting the speech recognition system with an augmenting grammar set supplied by a portal; and  
means for notifying the portal in response to an input which corresponds to the augmenting grammar set.

21. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the input corresponds to at least one DTMF tone.

22. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the input corresponds to an spoken utterance.

23. The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the input corresponds to at least one DTMF tone.

24. The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the input corresponds to an spoken utterance.